

# Society

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like all of the missions, they of course went to Mount Vernon and put a wreath on the grave of George Washington. A mission would hardly be a mission without including that in their program. I never heard of a mission that didn't. The Daughters did that, too.

On Friday there will be an official adjournment of the congress in order that the Daughters might make a pilgrimage to Mt. Vernon to witness the placing of wreaths on the graves of George and Martha Washington by the different State delegations. Heretofore each State has undertaken this little ceremony "on its own," consequently delegations have been constantly "turning up missing" at the sessions of the congress, and altogether this new order of procedure would seem to be rather a better arrangement.

A little bird told me that Senator Manuel L. Quezon, head of the Philippine commission, which also went from here to New York, confided in someone at luncheon one day that that metropolis was renowned even in the darkest jungles of Mindanao as a place of gaiety, and that he thought it lived up to its reputation. It seems like the mission is having a good time on its visit. Other missions and visitors are coming later. One visitor I particularly want to see is Marshall Peltain, commander-in-chief of the French armies in France, who announced his intention last week of visiting the United States. The marshal was asked when his visit to the United States would be paid. "I cannot make any definite plans," he replied, "until the peace which we are all waiting is signed."

Gen. Botha, the famous Boer war leader and at present a member of the British Mission to the Peace conference, is also coming here before long on a special mission. Meanwhile our prominent citizens continue to go overseas. Secretary Baker landed at Brest last safe and sound last week—last Tuesday I believe. He had with him Gen. Pershing's son, who saw his father for the first time in two years. Gen. Pershing met the ship when it landed.

The lists of guests at parties in Paris just now read like Washington's social register. Take for example the account of an interesting ceremony which took place at the Opera Comique last week, when 140 American aviators were each presented with banners made by the women of France in honor of the Lafayette Escadrille. Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, dressed in a khaki tailored suit and wearing a hat much like the little bonnet worn by aviators, attracted much attention. She received a great welcome, many in the audience remarking, "She is dressed exactly like an honorary colonel" of the American aviation force.

Stephen Lausanne, editor of the *Matin*, greeted the American aviators, and Brigadier Mason L. Patrick, U. S. A., thanked the women of France for their kindly thought. Then the banners were presented in turn by the famous French airmen, Capt. Hestaux, Nungesser and Naudin. Col. Edmund Lewis Gros, of the United States Aviation Signal Corps and founder of the Lafayette Escadrille, translated the speech of Gen. Patrick.

The American aviators came from the First and Second armies, arriving by air from the zones of occupation yesterday and today in groups of three, four and five. Gen. A. Y. E. Fubail, formerly military governor of Paris; Col. House and Mrs. House, Admiral William S. Benson and Mrs. Benson and Joseph Daniels, Secretary of the American Navy, and Mrs. Daniels were present.

Even Gen. Patrick belongs here more or less; he was in command at the Washington Barracks for a long time, and Stephen Lausanne visited here not so long ago. Really that little item might well be a story of an event happening here as in Paris.

Though the President may return soon and Congress may convene shortly, another Congressional party has just started off on a jaunt. Headed by Uncle Joe Cannon, nineteen members of Congress and their families have gone to Porto Rico at the invitation of the government of the island.

They are to be given such a time as they never had in the States, and incidentally, Porto Rico hopes that what they see of the island—and they are to see Porto Rico from San Juan to the southern shore—will dispose

MRS. LOUIS BROWNLOW, wife of the Commissioner of the District, and chairman of the woman's committee for the District for the Salvation Army drive. She was the only lady present at the luncheon which Earl Godwin, chairman of the Salvation Army drive for the District, gave last Monday at the Cafe St. Marks, the other guests all being prominent residents of Washington who will assist Mr. Godwin.



HARRIS LEWIS

Congress kindly toward Porto Rico's statehood ambitions. The party sailed on the *Commo*, of the Porto Rico line. The party will be taken on the finest automobile trip in the world on the famous military road across the island. They will see the great tobacco fields of Caguas and Cayey, and sample the products at first hand. They will be taken to the sugar centrales at Guanica, Aguirre, and Fajardo.

A visit will be made to the experimental station of the United States Department of Agriculture at Mayaguez. While there they will also be able to see the ruin and devastation wrought by the earthquake of last October.

Further trips will be arranged permitting them to get an inside view of the chief industries of the island, including the coconut and orange groves and pineapple centers. The cantonment at Las Casas, where the Porto Rican draft army was trained, will also be inspected.

Washington has taken a great deal of interest in the announcement of the appointment of Hugh Simon Gibson as the first minister to Poland. Hugh Gibson is well-known here and well liked here as one of the better known of the younger members of the American diplomatic corps, now serving as secretary of the American Embassy at Paris under William G. Sharp, the retiring American Ambassador to France, who was succeeded in charge of the embassy in Paris last week by Mr. Hugh Campbell Wallace.

Few persons attached to the diplomatic service of the United States have had a more varied and exciting career than Hugh A. Gibson. Born in Los Angeles, Cal., August 16, 1883, he was educated at the Los Angeles Military Academy and at the Ecole Libre des Sciences Politiques, Paris.

He began his diplomatic service in July, 1908, as secretary of the United States legation at Tegucigalpa. After a year of service at that capital, he was transferred to London as second

secretary of the United States Embassy and a year later came to Washington for service as confidential clerk to the Assistant Secretary of State.

In July, 1911, he went to Havana as secretary of legation and attended the inauguration of Gen. Menocal as President of Cuba in May, 1912. In December of that year he was detailed as observer of the elections for the constituent assembly of Santo Domingo. In February, 1914, he served as secretary of legation at Brussels, and was there during the early part of the world war.

Although Gibson is rounding out his eleventh year in the American diplomatic service, he first came into prominence after the outbreak of the war while serving as secretary of the American Legation at Brussels under Minister Brand Whitlock. Mr. Gibson served for a while in the State Department here after the United States entered the war and

was then sent to the Embassy in Paris.

He did all that was humanly possible to save the life of Miss Cavell, the British nurse. In May, 1916, he was transferred to duty at London, and in the following year came to this city for service at the State Department. During the visit of Mr. Balfour, British secretary of state for foreign affairs, in April, 1917, Mr. Gibson was specially detailed to serve as his aid.

When the Belgian mission was re-established, in June, 1917, Mr. Gibson joined it as secretary and has remained with it to date. Hugh Gibson has also become well known through his very interesting book, "The Rise of Belgium," which tells in a most graphic manner of the first days, the very first days of the war, in Belgium. It is charmingly told and is most enlightening. And his name became well known when it

was rumored that he was engaged to Miss Violet Asquith in about 1912, when he was attached to our embassy in London. He came back to this country almost simultaneously with the circulation of the rumor and denied it most positively. He is still single.

Talking of Miss Asquith, brings to my mind that we were all very much interested in the fact that our old friend, Lord Eustace Percy, who has served his government here on several occasions, was defeated recently in England, in an election.

The coalition government suffered another heavy defeat, the second since the election of the new parliament, in the by-election in the Central Hull district, when Comdr. F. M. Kenworthy, an Asquithian liberal, was elected by a majority of 517 over Lord Eustace Percy, a coalition unionist. The vote was: Kenworthy, 8,616; Lord Percy, 7,699.

In the general election last winter Sir Mark Sykes, coalitionist, had a majority of more than 10,000 over his liberal opponent in a vote about 1,000 less than at today's election.

Comdr. Kenworthy was a popular candidate because of his record, but the coalitionist chose in Lord Percy the strongest man available, and his defeat is a heavy blow to the government, whose policy in many directions Comdr. Kenworthy attacked during the campaign.

The result in Central Hull was the second defeat for the Lloyd George government in three by-elections since the new parliament was elected. On March 14 in West Leyton A. E. Newbold, an independent liberal, defeated K. F. Mason, a coalition unionist, by a majority of 2,000. The other election was in the West Darby division of Liverpool, where Rear Admiral Sir W. R. Hall, a coalition unionist, was returned, but by a greatly decreased majority.

Lord Percy came over the last time with the British War Mission headed by Mr. Balfour and remained behind after they departed to do some special work for his government.

Admiral William B. Caperton landed in New York last week on his flagship, the cruiser *Pittsburgh*, and his wife and daughter, Marguerite Caperton, went there to meet him. Their friends will be interested to know that Admiral Caperton, in command of the Pacific fleet since May, 1917, will be relieved from that duty on April 30 and, pending his

retirement on June 30, will be detailed to prepare a memorandum of his services for the historical section of the navy.

While on duty with the Pacific fleet, in conjunction with British and French forces, Admiral Caperton cleared the South Atlantic of German raiders and escorted the naval patrol off the east coast of South America. On the *Pittsburgh* he made courtesy visits to South American republics.

"These visits were of inestimable value," Acting Secretary Roosevelt said, "as they strengthened the bonds of friendship between South American republics and the United States and promoted solidarity of relations between these countries and the allies."

Brig. Gen. Eli Kelly Cole, of the Marine Corps, is back in town again. He landed in New York a week or so ago, after having become famous as commander of the famous Fifth Regiment of Marines in the historic battles of Chateau-Thierry and Belleau Wood. Gen. and Mrs. Cole belong in Washington as they are stationed here frequently and have many friends and relatives here. Through Mrs. Cole, who was a Miss Maxwell, they are related to the family of Gen. and Mrs. Arthur Murray and Gen. and Mrs. Eli D. Hoyle. Mrs. Murray and Mrs. Hoyle were both daughters of the late Gen. De Russy and his fourth wife, who was a Miss Maxwell, and a fine old lady too. She was only 18 when she married Gen. De Russy who was between 60 and 70 at that time, so, of course, she lived many years after he died. They had four daughters, three of whom are living.

Gen. Murray, who is the father of Mrs. Ord Preston and Mrs. Conger Pratt, also Col. Maxwell Murray, of the regular army, was chief of artillery of the army for a long time; was retired and then went on active duty again as commander of the Department of the West when he got into the big fight. Upon being retired again at the end of the war he has been appointed clerk of the House Committee of Military Affairs in the next Congress.

This is not the first instance of such service by an army officer. Maj. William P. Huxford, U. S. A., retired, was Senate Military Committee clerk, under Gen. Harvey, its chairman. He ceased to be clerk in 1900.

Gen. Hoyle, who was also an art-

illeryman, is one of the finest officers the army ever produced. He is a real soldier and a real man. He and his family are now living in Chevy Chase. All of his daughters, there are four or five, married army officers, and their only son, De Russy Hoyle, is an army officer. One son-in-law, Col. Shannon, lost his life in the war.

The many friends in this city of Brig. Gen. Lloyd M. Brett, U. S. A., and particularly the officers and men of the old District National Guard, were gratified by the recent announcement that he had been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal "for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services." The citation is as follows:

"He commanded the 160th Infantry Brigade with particular efficiency in the markedly successful operations resulting in the occupation of the Dannevoix sector, in October, 1918. In the actions near Imecourt and Buzancy, in November, his brigade broke the enemy's resistance. Due to his masterful ability and brilliant leadership, these operations proved a crowning success."

For five years Gen. Brett, as a captain and later as a major of cavalry, served as adjutant general of the District National Guard. He has spent many years in and around Washington and had a house in Georgetown at one time for a long period. He had commanded a squadron of the Second Cavalry at Fort Myer, and in that capacity participated in several encampments of the District National Guard prior to his assignment to duty with the local citizen soldiery. Members of the Eightieth Division, which the 160th Brigade was a part of whom are living.

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who have just returned from France brought with them some interesting data, all tending to show that Gen. Brett was the real hero of the division.

It is claimed, as a matter of record, that in the operations from November 5 to November 8 "the division moved forward fifteen and five-eighths miles in an air line; that it always led; it captured two Hunns for every man wounded; it captured one machine gun for every man wounded; it captured one cannon for every ten men wounded; it captured one hundred and fifty tons of munitions and other stores, and it accomplished these results, of vast importance to the success of the general operation, with a far smaller percentage of casualties than any other division engaged."

The appreciation of the commander of the First Army Corps was expressed in the following telegram: "The corps commander is particularly pleased with the persistent, intelligent work accomplished by your division today."

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